

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: M:19-36

Name: 15019/MD 118 OVER B&O RAILROAD TRACKS

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
Eligibility Recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X	Eligibility Not Recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____ _____ _____	
Reviewer, OPS: <u>Anne E. Bruder</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>Peter E. Kurtze</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY  
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MHT NO. M:19-36

NAME AND SHA NO.: 15019

LOCATION

Road Name and Number: MD 118 over B & O railroad tracks

City/Town: Germantown \_ vicinity

County: Montgomery

Ownership: \_ State \_ County \_ Municipal X Other

Bridge projects over: \_ Road X Railway \_ Water \_ Land

Is bridge located within designated district?: X yes \_ no

\_ NR listed district X NR determined eligible district

\_ locally designated \_ other

Name of District Germantown Historic District

BRIDGE TYPE

\_ Timber Bridge

\_ Beam Bridge \_ Truss-Covered \_ Trestle \_ Timber-and-Concrete

\_ Stone Arch Bridge

\_ Metal Truss Bridge

\_ Moveable Bridge

\_ Swing \_ Bascule Single Leaf \_ Bascule Multiple Leaf

\_ Vertical Lift \_ Retractable \_ Pontoon

\_ Metal Girder

\_ Rolled Girder \_ Rolled Girder Concrete Encased

\_ Plate Girder \_ Plate Girder Concrete Encased

\_ Metal Suspension

\_ Metal Arch

\_ Metal Cantilever

X Concrete

\_ Concrete Arch \_ Concrete Slab X Concrete Beam \_ Rigid Frame

\_ Other

Type Name \_ 627

## DESCRIPTION

### **Describe the Setting:**

Situated in the Piedmont physiographic zone, Bridge 15019 carries MD 118 over the B & O railroad tracks in the town of Germantown in central Montgomery County, Maryland. A small town, residences and commercial houses are scattered near the roadway.

### **Describe the Superstructure and Substructure: (Discuss points identified in Context Addendum, Section C)**

Composed of three concrete-beam spans, Bridge 15019 totals roughly 87 feet in length. The bridge supports a clear roadway width of 18 feet with a five-foot wide sidewalk. Concrete abutments, wing walls and piers compose the substructure.

A survey of historic concrete beam bridges undertaken by the Maryland State Highway Administration in the Fall of 1995 identified 113 bridges of that type located throughout the state. Nine percent (10) of that total were triple-span bridges; 37 bridges (33%) were multiple span.

### **Discuss major alterations:**

Inspection records include a 1927 agreement between the B&O Railroad and the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners outlining the Railroad's reconstruction of a pre-existing bridge in Germantown. The extent of the reconstruction is unclear.

## HISTORY

**When Built:** 1905/1927

**Why Built:** Grade elimination

**Who Built:** Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company

**Who Designed:** Unknown

**Why Altered:** Greater height requirements

**Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge building campaign?:** No.

SURVEYOR ANALYSIS

**This bridge may have NR significance for association with:**

A (Events)    B (Person)    C (Engineering/Architectural Character)

**Was this bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history?**

Construction of Bridge 15019 probably resulted from the increased settlement of Germantown after the B&O established a station in the town in 1873.

**When the bridge was built, and/or given a major alteration, did it have a significant impact on the growth and development of the area?**

Bridge 15019, through its association with the B&O Railroad, probably made a large contribution to Germantown's continued development and growth during the early twentieth century.

**Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation, and would the bridge add or detract from the historic and visual character of the possible district?**

Yes. Bridge 15019 stands in the middle of the National Register determined-eligible Germantown Historic District. Documenting the railroad's impact on local settlement patterns between 1880 and 1945, the historic district's period of significance encompasses the period of the bridge's construction in 1905 and its reconstruction in 1927.

**Is the bridge a significant example of its type?**

No, this bridge is not a significant example of its type although most of its character defining elements survive with good integrity.

**Does the bridge retain integrity of the important elements described in the Context Addendum?**

Bridge 15019 appears to retain good integrity of its character defining elements.

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Is the bridge a significant example of the work of the manufacturer, designer, and/or engineer, and why?

Unknown

Should this bridge be given further study before significance analysis is made, and why?

Yes. Further study is likely to reveal the relationships between the 1927 reconstruction and the bridge's current condition, as well as the direct role the bridge played in Germantown's settlement. Further research may also reveal whether the bridge is a significant example of the B&O's bridge building.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

Survey information on file at Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, MD.

Maryland State Highway Administration

Bridge Inspection Reports. On file at 707 North Calvert Street, Baltimore.

Spero, P.A.C., & Company, and Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

1994 *Historic Bridges in Maryland: Historic Context Report*. Maryland State Highway Administration, Baltimore.

State Roads Commission of Maryland

1930 *Report of the State Roads Commission of Maryland for the Years 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930*. Baltimore.

1958 *A History of Road Building in Maryland*. Baltimore.

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Stuart Paul Dixon/Steven Linhart

Organization: KCI Technologies, Inc.

Address: 5001 Louise Dr., Suite 201  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Date: 13 May 1996

Telephone: (717) 691-1340

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property/District Name: MD Rt. 118 over CSXT RR Survey Number: M:19-36  
Project: ISTEA #15019 Agency: MO DPW

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
 None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)  
Based on the available information, the Old MD. Rt. 118 over CSXT Railroad Bridge, Montgomery County, appears to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It was originally constructed in 1905 and was reconstructed in 1927. It is a concrete beam bridge within the Germantown Historic District, a National Register eligible district. This type of bridge was built by the State Roads Commission as a way to eliminate at-grade crossings over railroad tracks. Because of the importance the railroad played in creating Germantown, the Bridge is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A as an example of the importance of railroads in creating towns. Furthermore, it retains good integrity and therefore also meets Criterion C for architecture.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance  
Prepared by: Paula Spero & Company

Anne E. Bruder 2/20/98  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence:  yes  no  not applicable

Peter Kurtz 2/23/98  
Reviewer, NR program Date

*Handwritten signature*

M-19.3

Survey No. AL LA 085

### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

#### I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

#### II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (  prehistoric  historic)

#### III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaptation

#### IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

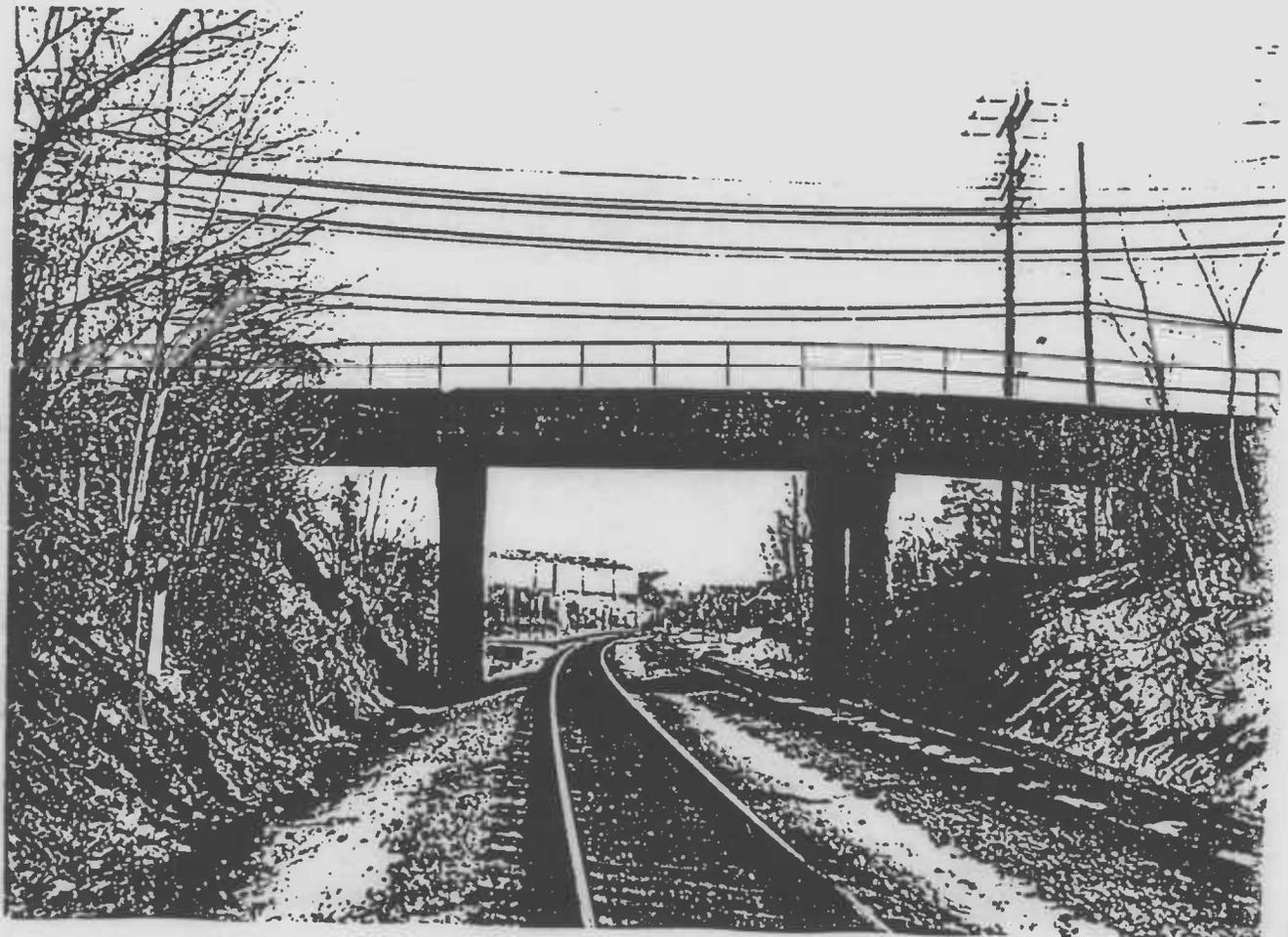
#### V. Resource Type:

Category: Structure  
 Historic Environment: Rural  
 Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Bridge/Transportation  
 Known Design Source:



M:19-36

PROLINE # 14913  
KLEER-VU 5x7

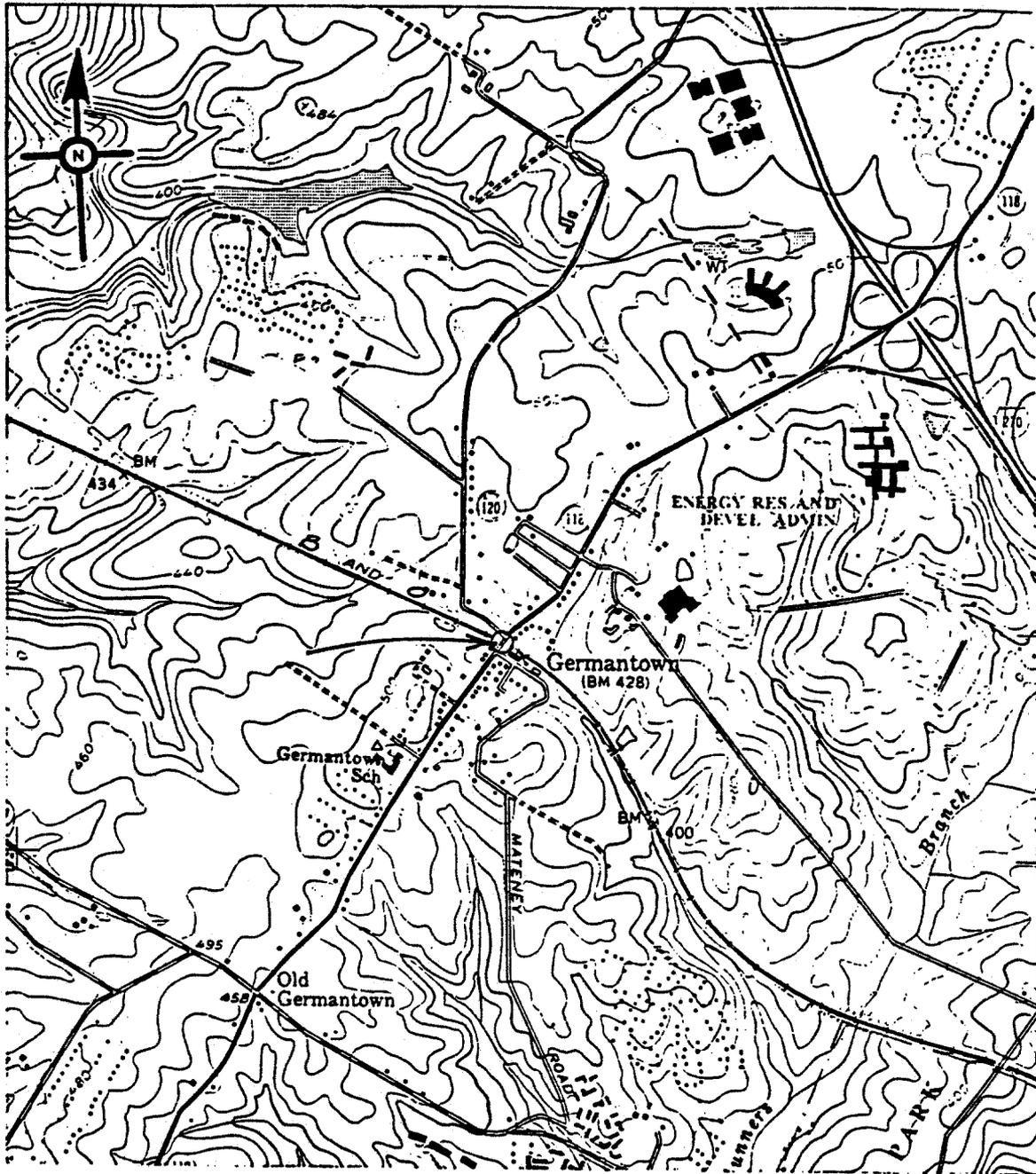


Maryland Historic Highway Bridges  
Bridge Type CONCRETE BEAM  
Map ROCKVILLE, E-10  
County MONTGOMERY  
Bridge # and Name 15019, MD118  
OVER B+ORR



M. 1986

631



Bridge # 15019 (MHT # M:19-36)  
MD 118 over B & O Railroad  
Germantown, MD Quadrangle (USGS 1979)



Inventory # M:19-36

Name 15019 - MD RT 118 OVER B&O RR

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description APPROACH SOUTH

Number 1 of ~~3~~ <sup>4</sup>



Inventory # M:19-36

Name 15019 - MD RT 118 OVER B70 RR

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative ~~SIA~~

Description ELEVATION EAST

Number <sup>2</sup> 8 of <sup>4</sup> 34



Inventory # M: 19-36

Name 15019-MD RT 118 OVER B&O RR

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description ELEVATION WEST

Number <sup>3</sup>9 of <sup>4</sup>~~36~~

11 11 4 11 11 11 11 11 11 11



Inventory # M:19-36

Name 15019 - MD RT 118 OVER B&O RR

County/State MONTGOMERY / MD

Name of Photographer FRANK JULIANO

Date 2/95

Location of Negative SHW

Description APPROACH NORTH

Number 4 of ~~10~~ 34

RECEIVED 4/13